

10/506337

PATENT

S/N 10/506,337

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | MUELLER et al. | Examiner: | Unknown |
| Serial No.: | 10/506,337 | Group Art Unit: | Unknown |
| Filed: | September 1, 2004 | Docket No.: | 02316.1876USWO |
| Title: | ACCESS GUARD FOR DISTRIBUTOR MODULES | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 April 25, 2005.

By:

Name: Sarah Dannecker

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in a German Office Action mailed September 24, 2002.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the German Office Action.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

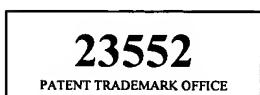
Dated: April 25, 2005

By: 
Steven C. Bruess
Reg. No. 34,130

SCB/sbd

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| FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | | | Docket Number: 02316.1876USWO | Application Number: 10/506,337 |
| IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | Applicant: MUELLER et al. | |
| | | | Filing Date: September 1, 2004 | Group Art Unit: Unknown |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
| | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |
| | | | | | | YES |
| | 35 09 523 | 09/1986 | Germany | | | Abstract |
| | 195 20 010 | 09/1996 | Germany | | | Abstract |
| | 198 07 293 | 10/1999 | Germany | | | Abstract |
| | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant. | |